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The University of Dayton

UD GRADUATE TO GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS
AT MCLIN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DINNER

News Release

DAYTON, Ohio, Oct. 5, 1989--When Lisa Payne was a student at the University of Dayton, she helped to establish United Youth Group Homes Inc. in Dayton. Her commitment to the project is as solid today as it was then.

Payne, a 1984 graduate of UD and New York City resident, served as chair of the home's junior executive board as a student and is still an active member of the board of directors in Dayton. She will give the keynote address at the first annual C.J. McLin Achievement Awards Ceremony and Ball on Saturday, Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Dayton Convention Center. United Youth Group Homes is sponsoring the event.

"Of all the things I was involved in while I was at UD, this was the most special," said Payne. "I saw the whole project grow, from when it was just an idea, to buying the house and then to actually having kids in residence." United Youth Group Homes opened in 1985 as an in-residence program to serve girls aged 12-18 who are referred by Montgomery County Children's Services or the juvenile justice system. The residents are required to attend school, and the group home provides a full array of counseling services and individual support. There are currently six residents.

"One thing I've learned is that you have to help, to reach and bring people with you," said Payne. "That's the only way society is going to change for the better. With the group home, these girls meet role models, and they learn to set their own goals."

In keeping with the organization's purpose of helping young people, the achievement awards will recognize 19 outstanding youths in Dayton who have overcome obstacles to achieve something of worth.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: For interviews, contact Lisa Payne at (212) 655-6691 or Victoria McDonald, director of United Youth Group Homes at (513) 263-0085.

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